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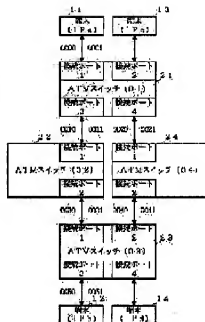
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## (54) ATM NETWORK SYSTEM AND ATM NETWORK METHOD

## (57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To set another path in a short time and to continue transfer of data when data communication is disabled due to a fault of an ATM switch or the like by maintaining a control virtual channel for a prescribed time even when the data transfer is already finished in an ATM network.

SOLUTION: ATM switches 21 - ATM switches 24 intercommunicate with each other, and each connection port stores connection information such as identification information of the ATM switches 21 - ATM switches 24, an IP address of terminals 11-14 directly connected to each port and IP addresses of the terminals 11-14 indirectly connected to each port. The ATM switches 21 - ATM switches 24 set a control virtual channel and a communication virtual channel through data transfer from the terminals 11-14, maintain a control virtual channel after the end of data transfer and execute data transfer through other path by using the control virtual channel on the occurrence of a fault.



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